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## **16 NEO Organizations Show Support for Excursion Train In Cleveland**

**Peninsula, OH** - A ceremony was held today at the Tower City Concourse to celebrate the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) by 16 government, business, and civic organizations to bring Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad (CVSR) to downtown Cleveland from Cuyahoga Valley National Park. The ceremonial signing event was held in conjunction with the triennial "Canal Adventure" showcasing the steady growth of the Ohio & Erie Canalway National Heritage Area. CVSR is the "steel spine" and the national park is the "keystone" of the Canalway.

The Tower City site was chosen to honor the passenger rail heritage of the Cleveland Union Terminal building. This is the proposed location for CVSR trains to arrive and depart downtown Cleveland linking downtown to the national park eight miles south in Independence.

The 16 signatories are: Ohio Rail Development Commission, NOACA, Mittal Steel, Forest City Enterprises, Cuyahoga County Port Authority, Greater Cleveland Convention & Visitors Bureau, Downtown Cleveland Alliance, Ohio Canal Corridor, Steelyard Commons LLC, ODOT District 12, Cuyahoga County Commissioners, Cuyahoga County Planning, Greater Cleveland RTA, Trust For Public Land, CVSR and Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Additional supporters include the City of Cleveland and the Greater Cleveland Partnership (GCP). Letters of support from Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson and GCP President Joe Roman were read as part of the signing ceremony.

Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad is a private sector, not-for-profit organization located in and in partnership with Cuyahoga Valley National Park. CVSR is dedicated to the preservation of historic passenger rail transportation in the Cuyahoga Valley.

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